



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY
1785 E. Sahara Avenue, Suite 200
Las Vegas Nevada 89104
Telephone (702) 668-4000 • Fax (702) 668-4001
<http://taxi.state.nv.us>

TERRY JOHNSON
Director

LT. JOSEPH WINGARD
Acting Administrator

ILEANA DROBKIN
Chairman

VACANT.
Vice Chairman

Members
VACANT

JOHN G. MARUSHOK
JOSHUA C. MILLER
JOSEPH P. HARDY, JR., ESQ.

**BEFORE THE STATE OF NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

February 10, 2011

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority was held on Thursday, February 10th, 2011. The meeting was held at the Taxicab Authority, 1785 E. Sahara Avenue, Suite 200, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104. The meeting began at 9:30 A.M.

Present were: Chairman Ileana Drobkin, Member John Marushok, Member Josh Miller and Member Joseph Hardy. Others present: were Lt. Joseph Wingard, Acting Administrator, Legal Counsel, Deputy Attorney General Scott R. Davis and Recording Secretary, Barbara A. Webb.

2. Compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Lt. Wingard, Acting Administrator, stated that we were in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

***3. Approval of the Minutes from the January 25th, 2011 Board Meeting.**

Motion: To approve January 25th, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes

By: Member Marushok

Second: Member Miller

Vote: Passed 3:0 - Member Hardy abstained as he was not present at the January Meeting.

4. Public Comment

Raymond Puhalski talked about how debilitating 12 hour shifts are. With regard to long hauling, he said it is outright stealing and there is no excuse for it. It gives a bad name to Las Vegas and can't understand why the TA and cab companies don't put a stop to it. He feels if he had one month with the ability to write tickets and he would stop the long hauling without adding any salary expense to the TA budget. He feels that the driver should be fined \$500 for the first offense and 1 week suspension; the driver's cab company should be fined \$5,000 plus put the cab out of service for a week; second offense – double the fines; third offense – triple the fines, etc. He feels if the TA had temporary employees just to take rides from the airport and issuing tickets, their salaries could be paid from the fines collected from the drivers and the companies. He feels in a month, the problem would be solved. For further information, there is a copy at the TA offices of what he had proposed that also stated his Mission Statement.

Steve Lanett, driver, passed out a copy of the Las Vegas Weekly newspaper that had a story about the long hauling. He said nationally and locally, long hauling is getting out of hand and also feels it can be stopped in 30 days. He said a sign at the airport with the projected fees is still not up. He commented that last week when additional medallions were given for Super Bowl, they should have been taken off the road because of all the snowstorms across the U.S. and people could not get to Vegas.

Board Meeting Minutes February 10, 2011

Sam Moffitt of the Alliance – USW/ITEPU, with regard to long hauling, he said a new visitor will not know they are being long hauled until they go back to the airport and the fare is less. He also feels the sign should be posted at the airport with various rates. He commented that there have been workshops and nothing helped. He cited the NRS that talks about long hauling and the welfare of the public and the Board still gives allocations which affect the drivers and the riding public.

Bill Shranko, YCS, commented that after hearing for weeks about long hauling and the Board being chastised by the drivers, he brought up the letter from Jonathan Schwartz, owner of YCS, regarding the signage at the airport. He said they have increased their progressive discipline of the drivers who long haul. They spoke with the airport about the signs and nothing is being done as yet. He complimented the Acting Administrator for what he has tried to do to help the situation. He said every month a few drivers come in complaining, but compared to the 20,000 plus drivers that are out there working, he feels it is not fair to them.

5. Discussion with Stephen Patterson, Traffic Manager for LVCVA regarding the taxicab service during the past month.

Mr. Patterson stated that during the Air Conditioning/Heating Show which had 50,000 attendees, cab service was exceptional. He said there was a one-minute wait. Floor managers had commented on how great the cab service was. He said ConExpo/Conagg is the next big show that comes every three years. He said the parking lots have all the equipment in them, therefore, there is no place for parking or cabs to stage. They do make arrangements with outlying properties to have cabstands available. The county approved shuttle buses to drop off at the gold parking lot. The Renaissance Hotel property is where cabs can go as well as the old Beach property as well as the southwest corner of Convention Center Drive and Joe W. Brown. He stated that the National Association of Broadcasters is also coming with an expected attendance of 85,000 and in the past they have always had exceptional cab service. Member Marushok asked if there are certain times that are more critical for the need of cabs and Mr. Patterson said that ConExpo attendees are early risers who come and look at only what they are interested in and then leave.

- 6. Discussion with Jeff Zamaria from the Sands Expo regarding taxicab service.** No one attended.
- 7. Discussion with Heidi Nizowitz from the Mandalay Bay Convention Center regarding taxicab service.** No one attended.
- 8. Discussion with a representative from the Thomas & Mack Center regarding taxicab service.** No one attended.
- *9. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the allocation of temporary medallions for the 2011 ConExpo-Con/Agg Convention to be held at LVCVA from Tuesday, March 22nd through Saturday, March 26th, 2011.**

The Chair asked that Agenda Items 9 – 10 – 11 be taken together.

Kelly Kuzik made his presentation. He stated that he would like to modify his recommendations of 15 and 15 which included 2 additional medallions that would have covered March Madness, but March Madness begins before ConExpo. He wants to modify March Madness which is here Tuesday, March 15th through Sunday, March 20th with almost 100 games played. Staff recommends for March Madness – 2 med – 7 AM – 7 PM and 2 meds – 12 PM – 12 AM for Tuesday through Sunday. He said staff didn't think anything past midnight were needed because most games are



Board Meeting Minutes February 10, 2011

over by 7 PM especially Sunday. He doesn't have any objection to modifying the time if that's what the companies want. Staff is also modifying the original ConExpo recommendation from 15 medallions to 13 medallions, as follows:

Tuesday, March 22 – 13 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 13 meds – 12 PM – 12 AM
Wednesday, March 23 – 13 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 13 meds – 12 PM – 12 AM
Thursday, March 24 - 13 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 13 meds – 12 PM – 12 AM
Friday, March 25 - 13 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 13 meds – 12 PM – 12 AM
Saturday, March 26 - 13 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 13 meds – 12 PM – 12 AM

Member Hardy commented that he had represented Frias 2 years ago, but can make a fair and impartial decision.

Intervenors were Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Nellis Cab Company, Desert Cab Company, Lucky Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, A Cab, LLC, Western Cab Company, Frias Holding Company, United Steelworkers Union and ITPE Union. The Chair granted intervenor status.

Whittlesea and Desert had asked for 12 meds from 7 AM – 7 PM and 12 meds from 12 PM – 2 AM. She feels that 2 AM gives them more flexibility of putting medallions out any 12 hour period.

Cheryl Knapp of Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi commented that she would like staff's recommendations prior to deadline of interventions. She said if her request and staff's recommendations are just a couple of medallions difference, she will support staff. With regard to ConExp/ConAgg she supports staff.

Bill Shranko of YCS, Jamie Pino of Nellis, Desiree Dante of Lucky, Esther Rodriguez for A Cab, Marilyn Moran for Western, John Hickman for Frias all support Whittlesea and Desert.

ITPEU and USW feel 8 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 8 meds 12 PM – 12 AM for Tuesday through Friday and 5 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 5 meds 12 PM – 12 AM. Ruthie Jones of ITPEU said that there are already 170 cabs on the road over the weekend.

***10. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the allocation of temporary medallions for the 2011 National Association of Broadcasters Convention to be held at LVCVA from Monday, April 11th through Thursday, April 14th, 2011.**

Kelly Kuzik made his presentation. Staff recommends –

Monday, April 11 – 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
Tuesday, April 12 - 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
Wednesday, April 13 - 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
Thursday, April 14 - 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM

Intervenors were Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Nellis Cab Company, Desert Cab Company, Lucky Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, A Cab, LLC, Western Cab Company, Frias Holding Company, United Steelworkers Union and ITPE Union. The Chair granted intervenor status.

Cheryl Knapp of Whittlesea/Henderson and George Balaban of Desert asked for - April 8th through Sunday, April 10th – 12 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12 hours. Monday, April 11th through Wednesday, April 13th – 5 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 8 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12 hours and



Board Meeting Minutes February 10, 2011

Thursday, April 14th – 8 med 7 AM – 7 PM. Again, they feel that medallions until 2 AM gives them more flexibility of putting medallions out any 12 hour period.

George Balaban commented that January of 2011 their revenue per shift was the best January ever and that CES the best ever. When he requested more permanent medallions last fall, the Board asked that he wait to see how the economy goes. He said that March is usually a busy month because of March Madness and feels drivers would have more flexibility if the hours were 12 PM – 2 AM. He said his averages were also high for Super Bowl contrary to what someone had said earlier.

Bill Shranko of YCS, Jamie Pino of Nellis, Desiree Dante of Lucky, Esther Rodriguez for A Cab, Marilyn Moran for Western, John Hickman for Frias agree with Whittlesea and Desert.

USW representative concurs with ITPEU.

Ruthie Jones of ITPEU stated that for Con/Expo they support Tuesday, March 22nd, Wednesday, March 23rd and Thursday, March 24th – 8 medallions per company 7 AM – 7 PM; Friday, March 25th – 7 medallions per company – 7 AM – 7 PM and 7 medallions per company – 12 PM – 12 AM; Saturday, March 26th – 5 medallions per company – 7 AM – 7 PM and 5 medallions per company – 12 PM – 12 AM. Friday and Saturday there are 170 additional medallions, therefore, they feel that because people will be leaving on Saturday, less medallions are needed.

Member Marushok and Ruthie Jones had a discussion regarding people leaving on Saturday and the need for addition cabs on Saturday and whether they'd be enough cabs and she said if not everyone was staying why maintain the same number of cabs.

With regard to NAB – ITPEU supports no temporary medallions. She commented about the trigger point that was in place which was 75,000 attendees, the Administrator was given the authority to remove medallions. She said NAB is anticipating 83,000 attendees. She commented that drivers would be happy if the trigger point was utilized.

Regarding March Madness – ITPEU commented that attendance is unknown. According to Mr. Patterson of LVCVA and service was acceptable without an allocation in 2009 and 2010.

***11. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the allocation of temporary medallions for the 2011 March Madness.**

Kelly Kuzik made his presentation. He is modifying his recommendation for March Madness – 2 med – 7 AM – 7 PM and 2 med – 12 PM – 12 AM for Tuesday through Sunday.

Cheryl Knapp said she does not agree with staff. They had asked for Thursday, March 17th through Sunday, March 20th – 5 medallions per company and Friday, April 1st through Sunday, April 3rd – 5 medallions per company. They didn't ask for times because they wanted the ability to run the medallions whenever they wanted during that 24-hour period.

George Balaban commented that March is a busy month because of March Madness. He would like to have the flexibility of the hours. He said he blended the numbers regarding ConExpo and March Madness. He said the first weekend of March Madness is the busiest weekend. His request is very close to staff's for ConExpo so he agrees with staff's recommendation. The 2nd weekend of March Madness you can either add a couple for those days and will go with whatever the Board decides.



Board Meeting Minutes February 10, 2011

He agrees with Cheryl Knapp regarding NAB as Friday, Saturday and Sunday the numbers are good, but again 2 AM as opposed to 12 AM.

Desert, Nellis, Lucky, Frias and Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi had asked for 5 medallions with no time restrictions for Thursday, March 17th through Sunday, March 20th and then Friday, April 1st through Sunday, April 3rd.

Desert, Lucky and Frias agreed that Thursday, March 24th through Sunday, March 27th that extra medallions would be out for ConExpo already. Nellis asked for 5 medallions with no restrictions and Whittlesea did not ask for any for these days.

A Cab although did not support an allocation, along with Western, ITPEU, USW, wanted to wait for staff's recommendations.

George Balaban commented that if there are too many medallions on the road the Administrator can remove them.

The Chair asked for a motion on Agenda 9, Agenda 10 and Agenda 11 –

A motion was made for ConExpo-Conagg - Agenda Item 9 –

Motion: Support staff's recommendation -
Tuesday, March 22nd through Saturday, March 26th - 13 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM
and 13 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12 hours – which a slight change to staff's
recommendation due to input from the industry
By: Member Miller
Second: Chair Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously – motion passed

A motion was made for the National Association of Broadcasters – Agenda Item 10 –

Motion: Supports staff recommendation but include the following –
Saturday, April 9 and Sunday, April 10 – 6 medallions – 7 AM – 7 PM
and 12 PM – 2 AM
Monday, April 11 – 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
Tuesday, April 12 - 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
Wednesday, April 13 - 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
Thursday, April 14 - 6 meds – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 meds – 12 PM – 2 AM
By: Member Marushok
Second: Chairman Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously – motion passes

A Motion was made for March Madness – Agenda Item 11 –

Motion: 2 and 2 on 17th and 20th from 7 AM – 7 PM and 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12-hour period
Same allocation for 24th and 25th – 7 AM – 7 PM and 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12-hr period
By: Member Marushok
Second: Member Hardy
Vote: Passed unanimously – motion passes.



**Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2011**

DAG Davis reiterated the motion – 17th through 20th allocation of 2 medallions 7 AM – 7 PM and 2 medallions – 12 PM – 2AM – any 12-hour period. The same allocation as far as number of medallions and times for the 24th through the 26th of March.

***12. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding posting a hotline number on the outside of taxicabs.**

The Chair stated that this item is being taken off the agenda for a later date.

***13. Discussion and possible action regarding the qualifications and process for the position of Administrator of the Taxicab Authority.**

The Chair stated that she is denying interventions on this. The Chair stated that the application process was reopened and will close February 28th. After much discussion with how the process will be with regard to how many names will be submitted by the board, the type and number of questions each will submit to Acting Administrator Wingard, how many applicants will be interviewed and how long the interviews will be the following motion was made.

Motion: The board will separately review all applications and come to the April 5th Meeting with up to 8 applicants to be interviewed that date. All applicants will be noticed that they could be interviewed at that time. The 5 questions will be chosen at the board meeting, applicants will be asked to step outside, interviews will be done and 3 applicants will be chosen for the Director at that time.

By: Chairman Drobkin
Second: Member Miller
Vote: Passed unanimously – motion passes.

***14. Adjournment.**

Motion: Adjourn
By: Chair Drobkin
Second: Member Marushok
Vote: Passed unanimously

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:46 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara A. Webb, Recording Secretary **Date**

Approved by:

Ileana Drobkin, Chairman **Date**

Lt. Joseph Wingard, Acting Administrator **Date**

